



PREPARING FOR

*success*



**MISSOURI**

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



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**A Note from Our Director**



## #whatayear!!

**2020-2021** has been a year for the history books for Missouri Agricultural Education and Missouri FFA. The months have been filled with all things virtual — state convention, classrooms and SAE visits. We have adjusted all local, state and national FFA events, and now finally we're moving back to in-person activities as we begin the 2021-22 school year.

As a **profession, organization and stakeholder**, you should give yourself kudos and grace; we made it! While it was not without challenges, we each strived to make the best experience for our students as we navigated the unknown. I found an anonymous quote, which I think helps us as we begin a new year: **"Every experience is meant to teach you something new."** We certainly have had many new experiences, and we all have learned something new from the adjustments of the pandemic. The challenge moving forward is to **use what we have learned** from those experiences and incorporate them into our classrooms and activities in the future.

As you view this annual report, I believe you will find Missouri Agricultural Education and Missouri FFA continue to create **meaningful participation** for our students. These experiences are all working together to meet the vision of agricultural education; **"Agricultural education envisions a world where all people value and understand the vital role of agriculture, food, fiber and natural resource systems in advancing personal and global well-being."** Missouri Agricultural Education will meet this vision by continuing to employ the integrated 3-circle model of agricultural education:

1. Providing experiences in the **classroom/laboratory**,
2. Work experiences with their **supervised agricultural projects/programs**, and
3. Developing leadership skills through **FFA activities**.

We thank each of you for the role you play in providing meaningful opportunities for our students and hope you enjoy this report. As we move into the next year, we hope we can once again say **#whatayear!!**

*Keith Dietzschold*

Director, Agricultural Education  
Missouri Department of Elementary  
and Secondary Education

# School-Based *Agricultural Education*

## CLASSROOM

Through **classroom instruction**, agricultural education students use unique problem-solving skills.



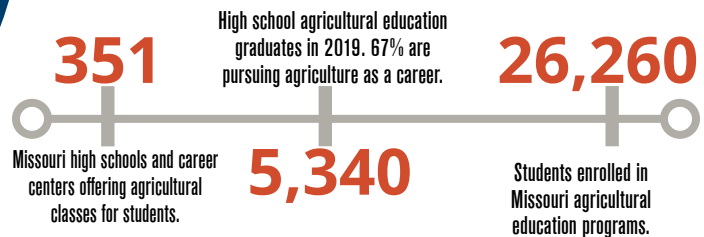
## FFA

A key component of FFA, **leadership development** activities promote personal skill development.



Ag education students gain **hands-on experience** outside the classroom through their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE).

## SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE (SAE)



## Missouri's TOP FIVE SAEs

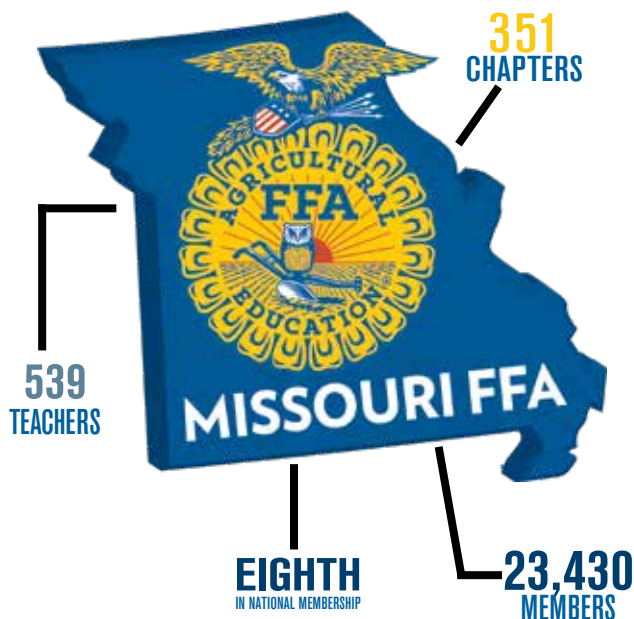
1. Placement/Agribusiness Systems
2. Placement/Animal Systems
3. Placement/Food Production & Processing
4. Beef
5. Placement/Power Structures & Technology

**\$** **\$3,275** SAE-Generated Labor Income Per Student

**\$57,406,955** SAE-Generated Student Labor Income

## Top 10 Accomplishments

- 1 Achieved the highest number of **American FFA Degrees** by a state: **539**.
- 2 **Paxton Dahmer** tapped as Central Region National FFA Vice President. Missouri's first National FFA Officer since 2008.
- 3 **Jacob Dierking, Santa Fe FFA**, named the national winner in Diversified Crop Production Entrepreneurship Proficiency.
- 4 **Amanda Belew, Ashland FFA**, selected as the national winner in Wildlife Management Proficiency.
- 5 **First-ever award winners only** State FFA Convention held in Sedalia.



- 6 More than **750 FFA members** packed **203,544 meals** as part of Missouri Farmers Care Drive to Feed Kids .
- 7 Greenhand Motivational Conferences held **virtual or in person** sessions during COVID-19 pandemic for **259 chapters, engaging more than 5,400 members**.
- 8 State FFA **Career and Leadership Development** events held **in person** with reduced attendance amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- 9 Local impact of the first-ever **mini grant program** established for food insecurity efforts captured **\$41,500**. More than **2,268 volunteers** from **63 participating chapters** logged in excess of **5,200 hours**.
- 10 Created first-ever **Missouri FFA Foundation**.





Justin Eddy  
State President  
2020-2021







“I believe  
in leadership

from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure.” This phrase from the third paragraph of the FFA Creed is exactly what FFA and Agricultural Education is providing students. Involvement in different FFA activities and classroom instruction provides members with the tools so they can confidently say these words.

Participation in FFA gives members the opportunity to step out of their comfort zone and discover their true leadership potential. Attending conferences allows networking to occur between members and industry professionals. Through Leadership Development and Career Development Events, members practice and develop those hard and soft skills that contribute to quality employees. Classroom instruction arms students with industry knowledge and decision-making skills, further preparing them for a broad range of agricultural careers.

In addition, FFA members maintain a Supervised Agriculture Experience or SAE, providing them with hands-on agricultural work opportunities. From mowing lawns, to working on a family farm, experimenting with plants, or starting their own business, members can create their own unique and personalized agricultural experience in high school. An SAE allows members to put those skills learned through FFA and in the classroom into real world practice.

The volunteers, supporters and agriculture educators help Missouri FFA Association provide members with the best experience possible to give youth the brightest future possible and discover their fullest potential. We hope this annual report will provide you with information and insight into how Missouri Agricultural Education and FFA is helping shape the face of tomorrow's leaders.

*Kaitlin Kleibocker*

**President**  
Missouri FFA Association

# 2021-22 State FFA Officers

**Top left to right:** Rachel Grimes, Archie, vice president; Emily Hoyt, Audrain Co. R-VI, secretary; and Meagan Forck, Blair Oaks, vice president.

**Stairs top to bottom, left to right:** Hannah Shanks, Vienna, vice president; Abigail Miller, Eldon, first vice president; Caitlyn Kleffner, Rolla, vice president; Riley Spurgeon, Cuba, vice president; Grant Norfleet, Mexico, vice president; and Izabella Hutton Kidwell, Troy, vice president.

**Bottom row from l to r:** Dakota Pemberton, Richland, mentor; Trent Jones, Higginsville, vice president; Vanessa Enslow, East Newton, vice president; Kaitlin Kleiboeker, Pierce City, president; Chris Ebbesmeyer, Paris, vice president; Seth Hansen, Chillicothe, vice president; Kraysen Leonard, El Dorado Springs, vice president; and Anna Triplett, Memphis, vice president.



# Premier Chapter

## GROWING LEADERS • Missouri Chapter Award Program



“W

e hope all members can use the **skills and knowledge** gained through our **chapter activities** to be **successful** both in and out of *agricultural careers in the future.*

—Deanna Thies, Boonville FFA





# National FFA Central Region Vice President

Sixth-generation agriculturalist and third-generation FFA member Paxton Dahmer never saw himself as a

National FFA Officer, but after being elected Central Region Vice President at the 93rd National FFA Convention in October 2020, he hopes to reach more students in a unique way.

"Right now, we have a pretty unique opportunity with virtual interaction to reach additional students that we wouldn't traditionally reach," Dahmer says. "Whether that's Zooming into a classroom or meeting a student face-to-face, we have the opportunity to dedicate a lot of time to doing just that. My hope is to engage with youth in as many ways as possible and try to develop them as FFA members so that ultimately we're strengthening our industry along the way."

Growing up, Dahmer was a member of the Nevada FFA Chapter. He raised commercial cattle and showed pigs and sheep across the nation with his family. "I'm pretty proud every time I zip up the jacket to know that I've got a lot of FFA history behind me," he says.

Dahmer recognizes the traditions of agriculture in 1928 when FFA was founded, but he says the organization has evolved to embrace different facets of the industry. "Now, we're embracing different types of agriculture, and we're trying to get as many people involved as we can because we have less than two percent of our population in an industry that feeds 100% of our population."

*Paxton Dahmer*

Interacting with former National FFA Officer Shea Booster was instrumental in helping Dahmer decide to run for the coveted position. "Shea was so good at representing FFA both inside and outside the blue jacket, and I think that's something that's very important," Dahmer says. "It made me realize, 'Hey, I can be a national officer,' but also 'I

want to be a national officer, and 'I want that extra year in the blue-jacket to do just that.'"

Participating in Missouri FFA's HYMAX (Helping Youth Maximize their Agricultural eXperience) Academy sparked Dahmer's passion for FFA and gave him the opportunity, "to see beyond the lights and sirens of state convention and see what FFA was all about," he says.

But, that was only the beginning of leadership opportunities that provided the framework for Dahmer's run for national FFA office.

Washington Leadership Conference was life-changing for the Missouri FFA member as he says the opportunity broke him out of his shell and helped him make connections across the country in just one week.

"If there's a member out there in Missouri that wants to run for national office and doesn't think it's attainable, don't close the door for yourself," Dahmer says. "If we miss out on one opportunity we start closing doors in our mind."

# GROWING THROUGH *Goal Setting*

Most high school agricultural education students learn to set goals that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time-oriented – also known as SMART. Missouri

FFA's State Star in Agribusiness has put these SMART principles into action through her Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). Setting structured goals became a must for Abigail Miller as her agribusiness SAE expanded exponentially.

"My SAE is extremely diversified, with seven different components," Miller says. "I have several cows that I originally bought from my parents' herd and their descendants. I keep replacement heifers and sell bulls and steers. I also have eight rented cows that I put embryos in for neighbors."

In addition to her cattle business, Miller shows market hogs and breeding gilts, as well as selling barrows for freezer pork. She also breeds Brittany Spaniel hunting dogs, has a poultry operation, and shows market goats. But, that's not all.

"The final aspect is my work at Brookshire Hills Farms," she says. "I take care of a variety of animals, including llamas, dairy goats, exotic chickens and even alpacas," Miller says."

**Abigail Miller**  
**Eldon FFA**  
Star in Agribusiness

She creates separate goals for each aspect of her SAE. Most have already been met or exceeded.

"Goal one was to increase the size of my herd of cows by 50 percent before I graduated," she explains. "This goal has been exceeded. That would be 15 cows, and I have 16 cows and five bred heifers. I will further increase my herd this spring calving season, as more will be born."

Her second goal was to sell broilers in a public store. She now sells in two, Covered Bridge Market and Clenin Farm Supply. Another goal set was focused on her swine operation.

"I wanted to raise a litter of pigs and market them as show animals," she says.

"I met this goal, as both of my litters had at least one show pig in them. The first litter of duroc pigs had all five go on to show, either at the county fair or the Missouri State Fair. The second litter only had one barrow go on to show, but all six have done very well."



After graduating from the University of Missouri, majoring in animal science and minoring in Spanish and captive wildlife management,

Miller plans to attend graduate school to pursue a master's degree and eventually a PhD. Her goal is to become a wildlife biologist, studying the interactions between livestock and wild predators.



# GROWING *Leaders*



*"HYPE was a great experience for high schoolers going into their senior year. It is a chance to learn about real issues in the agriculture industry, then present the issues to Missouri State Representatives and Senators. Attending HYPE allowed me to make lifelong friends and network with people throughout the industry."*

—Abbigail Kleinsorge, Wellsville-Middletown FFA Chapter



*"My favorite part about HYMAX was meeting a lot of new people and getting close with them. I also learned a lot more about ag issues and how to respond to them."*

—Olivia Schafer  
Audrain County R-VI FFA Chapter



*"Going to the FFA Public Speaking Academy (PSA) at UCM was a great experience. I now feel more confident in my speech writing abilities after attending the academy. I had a great time making friends and making memories with them at PSA. I would highly recommend other FFA members apply and attend."*

—Kate Kottman, Salisbury FFA Chapter









# Building COMMUNITIES



**63** chapters.

**70** mini grants.

**2,268** volunteers.

**5,200+** service hours.

**\$41,500** economic impact.

**"**I am so excited for the breakfast bars grant. It's been nice to slip a couple of bars to a (student in need) so he can have enough in his tummy until the next meal. You are awesome! *Thanks for always looking out for our kiddos.*"

—Jenny Varner

Family Support Advocate, Carrollton R-VII School District

*Learning* To Do.

*Doing* To Learn.

*Earning* To Live.

*Living* To Serve.



# Premier Chapter

**BUILDING COMMUNITIES • Missouri Chapter Award Program**

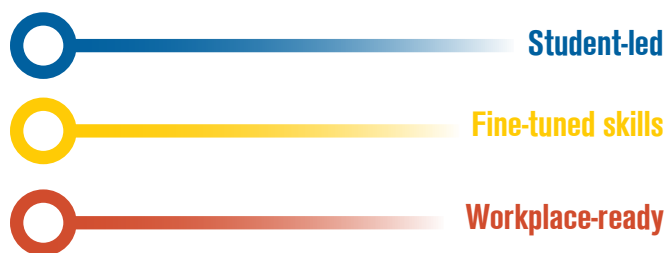


**"O**ur mission is to fill a need within our community and create students that will make a difference as citizens.

*Being hands-on in the community shows our local citizens how much we care."*

—Paige Brock, Advisor, Braymer FFA

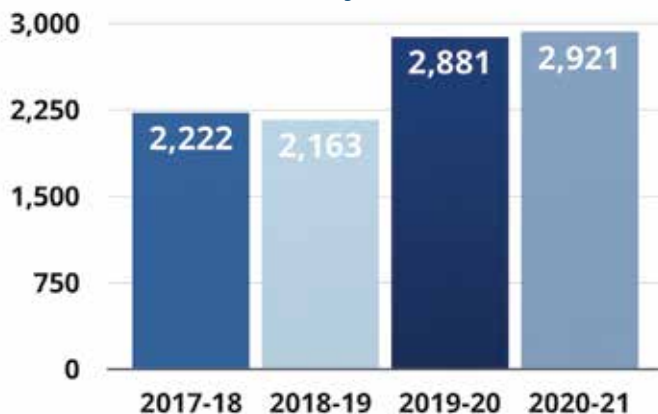
## Missouri Professional Agriculture Student Organization (PAS)



### PAS Chapters

Crowder College  
 Mineral Area College  
 Missouri State University-West Plains  
 North Central Missouri College  
 Northwest Missouri State University  
 Ozarks Technical Community College  
 St. Charles Community College  
 St. Louis Community College  
 State Fair Community College  
 State Technical College of Missouri  
 Three Rivers Community College

## Postsecondary Enrollment



## Adult Ag Education in Missouri

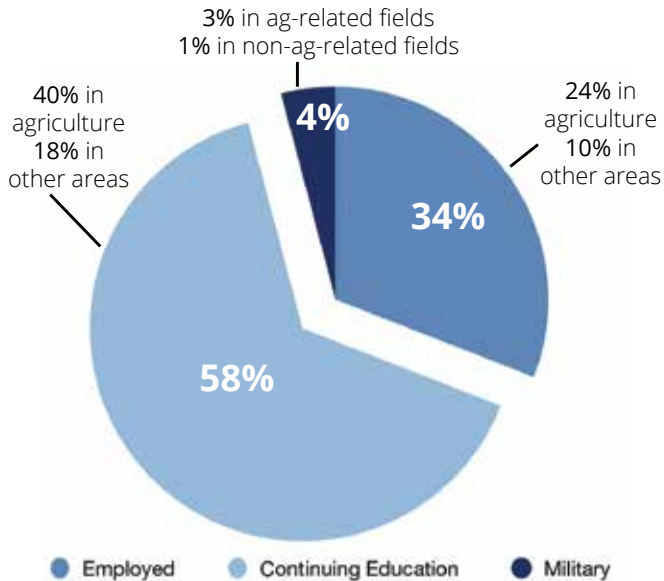
- 3,970 adults enrolled in 2019-2020.
- 24 schools active Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives chapters in 2019-20. State Membership: 331.
- Agriculture instructors in 39 schools had part or all of their time scheduled for adult instruction in 2020-21.
- More than 175 farm families enrolled in the Farm Business Management Analysis program (FBMA).

- Class work.
- On-site visits.
- Record Analysis.



## High School Ag Education Graduate Placement

2019—**5,340** high school agricultural education graduates. Of that, 95.1% were placed.



**“I** learned **skills** that will allow me to further my biotechnology **career** and accomplish my goals of producing novel biomedical **innovations** while working to reduce negative impacts on the climate.”

—George Frees, Cass Career Center  
FFA Agriscience





# Growing Leaps and Bounds

Austin Etcheson of the Jasper FFA Chapter wins State Star in Agricultural

Placement through continuous growth in the industry.

At the age of 15, this year's State Star in Agricultural Placement applied for a job that changed the trajectory of not only his high school career, but also his Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). Austin Etcheson was hired by Steel Rain Irrigation, a company that sells T-L center pivot irrigation systems and performs maintenance on center pivots.

"We build new center irrigation pivots, repair old ones, and perform routine maintenance on those units that our company sells within a 200-mile radius of headquarters," Etcheson explains. "Center pivot irrigation systems play a vital role in agriculture today, as they maximize the production of forage and crops and reduce the risk of drought damage."

Starting as a solo employee with little responsibility, Etcheson has grown leaps and bounds within both the company and the industry.

"My roles and responsibilities at Steel Rain Irrigation have changed from being the only employee to helping the

owner by serving as manager for five other employees to keep them working and being the most productive for the business," he says. "When I started, I was the only employee, but through the years I have helped bring new employees to the company. We work as a crew to build, maintain, and service pivot irrigation systems. It is my responsibility to manage the other employees and keep the company on schedule for building and fixing pivots."

This growth has brought on its fair share of challenges, including people and time management.

"I work during the school year as well as the summer, and managing my time wisely so that I am successful in school, work, athletics, and FFA can be a challenge if I do not utilize my time wisely," Etcheson explains. "While at work, there are also struggles such as helping manage co-workers.

Not everyone has the same work ethic, and I have to keep telling them the next job that needs finished so they are as useful as possible and earn their paycheck. It is important to keep everyone busy and productive, because if we are not productive as a crew, we could lose our job."

Etcheson currently attends Crowder College, working toward a degree in agribusiness management. He plans to use his degree and past experience to continue with Steel Rain Irrigation in the future.

**Austin Etcheson**  
**Jasper FFA**  
Star in Placement





*Strengthening*  
**AGRICULTURE**

**Spencer Vossler**  
**Crest Ridge**  
Star in Agriscience



## Rising Star *in Research*

Which milk replacer produces the best average daily gains compared to cost? Working cattle on his family farm, this year's State Star in Agriscience was curious to find out, prompting him to conduct an experiment focused on bottle calf nutrition. Spencer Vossler purchased 16 angus cross calves to test three varieties of milk replacer throughout his Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). He formulated his hypothesis and got to work.

"Through this experiment, I predicted that the Kent milk replacer would be the best replacer based off of its nutritional value as well as its price," Vossler says.

He conducted both a 30-day and 60-day trial using Purina, Kent and Earl Vet milk replacers. The 30-day trial included calves from Vossler's family farm, while the 60-day trial included the 16 purchased calves. He fed both trial's calves twice per day, randomly assigning the animals to a milk replacer while keeping all other variables constant. After his trials, Vossler determined his hypothesis was correct.

"As the experiment concluded, I determined that there were two conclusions," he says. My first conclusion was that Kent Milk Formula 1 milk replacer was the best milk replacer. It showed an average daily gain of 2.5 pounds over the other two replacers. When doing the nutritional analysis of the replacers, it was also the best price per pound of gain ratio. As for my second conclusion, Kent Milk Formula 1 also had the healthier calves. In group B, we had to vaccinate for scours and other diseases more than group A and C. Group C came in second, Earl Vet Replacers, for the second-best health ratings."

Though his project has concluded, Vossler's SAE is far from over. He plans to share his newfound data and knowledge.

"My goal is to host a night where local farmers can come in and listen to my presentation and ask questions," he explains.

This type of research and analysis will serve Vossler well beyond his time in FFA. After graduating high school, he plans to attend the University of Central Missouri to take pre-veterinary courses before applying for veterinarian school at the University of Missouri. Throughout his studies, the young researcher plans to continue working on his family farm.



# Premier Chapter

## STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURE • Missouri Chapter Award Program

**"A**s we plan our **chapter activities** we hope **FFA members** and **industry** gain a better **understanding** of agriculture and are able to **advocate** for today's farming practices. Because of that, **FFA members** become **more educated** and are better able to *communicate with consumers and stakeholders about the industry.*"

—Justin Belew, Advisor, Ashland FFA



# DIVERSIFIED

## Success

What started as eight cows and 50 acres of row crops quickly became Kidridge Griffin's growing Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE).

"My Supervised Agricultural Experience focuses on livestock and row crop production," he says. "I currently run 70 head of commercial Angus cross cows that are split into spring and fall calving herds. My goal is to market calves at 700 lbs. I am responsible for managing my cows, and I use a rotational grazing system on our farm. I rent 75 acres of pasture and rotate that along with pastures of our own."

Griffin has also added two breeding bulls to the mix.

The young farmer has worked hard to diversify. He added a few acres of crop ground to his operation, working his way up to renting 104 acres in 2020. This diversification allows Griffin to overcome challenges when they arise.

"Where we are located here in northern Missouri, two rivers fork just south of my house," he says. "Most of our crop ground is along these two rivers. Two of the past three years we have had severe flooding issues,

but sometimes the water itself isn't the worst part. In the summer of 2019, there was so much debris left in some of my crop fields that it took me nearly two weeks to get the fields cleaned up to be ready to plant.

"On the cattle side, I have dealt with harsh winters and dry summers making it challenging to prepare enough feed. Due to drought issues, I have had to harvest CRP for hay to make sure there is enough to make it through winter."

His solution is to persevere and push through.

"I have learned that I just have to go with the flow when it comes to Mother Nature, and try to make the best out of the cards I am dealt," he says.

After college, Griffin plans to return to the family farm to continue expanding and diversifying his row crop and livestock operation in the future.

### Kidridge Griffin Trenton FFA

Star Farmer



# Breaking in **THE INDUSTRY**

Earning to do. Doing to learn. Earning to live.  
Living to serve.

Those four lines of the FFA motto reign true to beginning farmers like Jacob Dierking. Fueled by his passion to break into the agricultural industry, the Santa Fe FFA member jumped at the opportunity to start his Supervised Agricultural Experience in crop production.

"My Diversified Crop Production SAE began as a freshman in 2015," Dierking explains. "I was given an opportunity by two neighboring landowners to start farming, first with renting a 10-acre field and then another 19 acres where I grew corn."

As is the case with most beginning farmers, Dierking started small and worked hard to diversify and expand.

"In 2016, I grew my operation by renting 35 acres to grow corn," he says. "I also began a vegetable business, growing 9 acres of sweet corn in a 25 percent partnership with my parents and brother. In 2017, I expanded again to grow 80 acres of sweet corn and 34 acres of green beans. In 2018, a neighbor retired and I rented his farm which allowed my acreage

to grow to 83 acres of corn and 39 acres of soybeans. With my additional rented acres I bought a soybean planter to begin a crop rotation."

Dierking has used rotation methods to diversify this crops grown ever since. It's important he maximizes the ground he has available.

"The greatest challenge I have faced in beginning my SAE is the acquiring land to be able to expand acres for crop production," Dierking explains. "I live in Saline County

Missouri, which is well known for its fertile soil, therefore the land prices are very expensive compared to many counties in Missouri. This creates a challenge, as a beginning farmer I do not have sufficient funds to purchase land."

As the 2020 winner of the National FFA Diversified Crop Production Entrepreneurship Proficiency, the young farmer has overcome this obstacle by forming relationships with local land owners and proving himself on the business side of his operation.

## **Jacob Dierking** **Santa Fe FFA**

National Proficiency Winner  
Diversified Crop Production  
Entrepreneurship





# WILD ABOUT Wildlife

While most agriculturalists are familiar with the challenges of breaking frozen water for cattle during winter or fixing fence rooted up by pigs in the summer, few have experienced those associated with wildlife production, such as raising Bobwhite Quail. Amanda Belew is all too familiar with the fragility of day-old chicks and the susceptibility of quail to disease. However, throughout her Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), she has overcome these challenges and shown exponential growth.

Belew purchases 500 quail chicks from a producer in Loose Creek, Missouri each July. She cares for the fragile birds in temperature-controlled settings for four weeks before allowing them to venture out into an attached flying pen. Belew then purchases a second set of 500 chicks. She has strengthened her operation through trial and error.

"Quail are labor intensive, requiring controlled temperatures and cleanliness as they are highly susceptible to disease," Belew says. "Talking with my support system, I improved management practices to meet these needs. Now I clean and fill feeders, waters and check for disease daily, taking care to keep equipment separate and manage bio-security issues between all of my poultry."

The quail producer doesn't shy away from labor intensive attention to detail.

"Day old Bobwhite Quail chicks are extremely fragile and require a temperature-controlled environment with ample feed and water readily available," she explains. "Even with these needs met, there is often death loss during the first week, as chicks lack nutrients after hatching. After talking with other growers, I decided

to dip each quail chick's beak into the water source, similar to what I had done

with my laying hen chicks. While this process is labor intensive, taking two to three hours, I immediately saw a drop in the death rate of the Bobwhite chicks."

A willingness to overcome road-blocks and persevere, Belew grew her operation into an award-winning SAE, being named the 2020 National Wildlife Production and Management proficiency award winner.

**Amanda Belew**  
**Ashland FFA**  
National Proficiency Winner  
Wildlife Management



**"I** teach ag to make a difference in the lives of students. As a kid, my brothers and I were greatly impacted by ag education and FFA. This is my way of giving back. Because of FFA, I have learned to live by this quote:

*"You can get everything you want in life if you just help enough other people get what they want."*

—Jarred Sayre,  
Agriculture Teacher &  
FFA Advisor, Milan

## Missouri Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association

### State & Region IV NAAE Winners

**Mentor:** Jason Dieckhoff, Cass Career Center

**Lifetime Achievement:** Keith Dietzschold, Boonville

**Outstanding Ag Educator:** Nick Nordwald, East Prairie

### Outstanding Early Career Teacher

Sarah Ray, Elsberry

### Outstanding Program

New Bloomfield – Dean Reichel

### Jess Clonts Memorial Scholarship

Tanner Koenig, Marshfield

### Ideas Unlimited

Bethany Prenger, Cole Co. R-V @ Eugene

### Teachers Turn the Key

Shelby Bagnell, Northwest Highschool, Hughesville

### Outstanding Service

Colleen Abbott, University of Missouri-Columbia

### Outstanding Cooperation

Doug Kueker, Vivayic

### Teach Ag Ambassadors College of the Ozarks

Erica Vaughn  
Amy Ford

### Missouri State

Cindi Prothro

### Northwest Missouri State

Ryan Shurvington  
Bailey Donner

### Southeast Missouri State

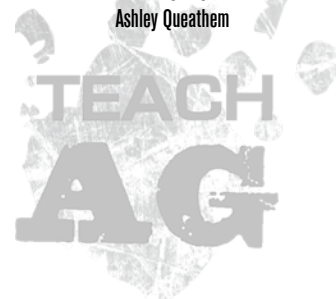
Emily Stricklin  
Hannah Dambacher

### University of Central Missouri

Abby Barron  
Jessica Farmer

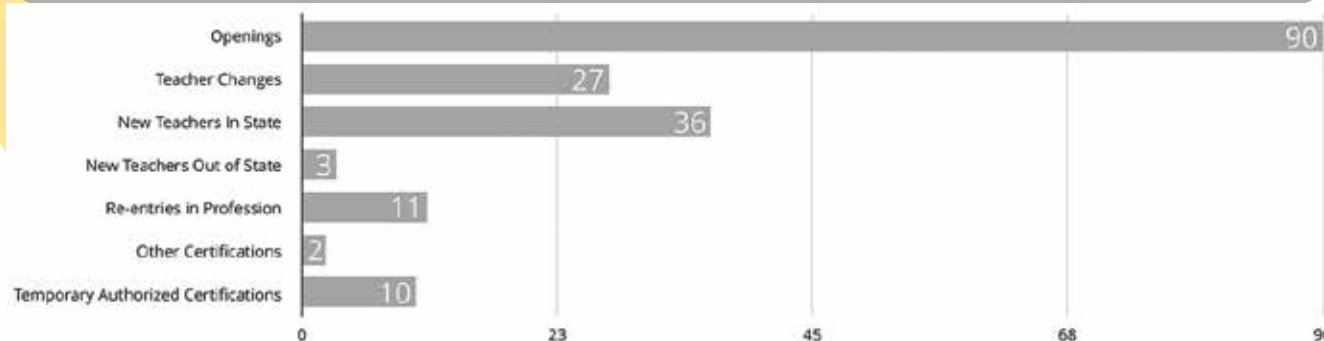
### University of Missouri

Natalie Koch  
Ashley Queathem



## Ag Education Employability Story

State Average Salary: \$55,442



Note: As of 9/1/2021, one position was yet to be filled.

**MILLER FFA**

**FOOD SCIENCE LAB**





**Missouri FFA Foundation**

# **GROW THE** *Legacy*

**YOUR GIFT TODAY  
PLANTS THE SEEDS  
FOR TOMORROW'S LEADERS.**

## **Give With Passion**

- >> Invest in Missouri FFA leadership and career development programs.**
- >> Fund direct-need grants.**
- >> Support top-quality ag educators.**



**Find Out More or Donate at:**  
[missouriffafoundation.org](http://missouriffafoundation.org)

**Contact Us at:**  
[heather@missouriffa.org](mailto:heather@missouriffa.org)

**Missouri FFA Foundation  
P.O. Box 480  
Jefferson City, MO 65102**

## *Sponsor Spotlight: FCS Financial team members have deep roots with FFA.*

At FCS Financial we are dedicated to supporting Missouri's youth in agriculture and rural communities. In fact, many of us grew up on farms and in rural areas. And, with our rural roots, it is not surprising that a fourth of our employees held officer positions in FFA throughout the years.

We believe the lessons and leadership skills learned through FFA are an important part of our own success. Our advice to you — participate and enjoy the experience as you develop business acumen and lifelong friendships. Be sure to check out the FCS Financial scholarships, internships, grants, and youth programs. We want to help you find success, too.

As you look forward, know that we will be there as you reach each new achievement.

## *Celebrating our FCS Financial FFA Officers*

Joe Abbott, Eldon FFA  
Ryan Bailey, Bowling Green FFA  
Austin Bailey, Bowling Green FFA  
Bob Bock, Perryville FFA  
Della Bohr, Audrain County FFA  
Taylor Boland, Sweet Springs FFA  
Greg Brown, Sarcoxie FFA  
Madison Browning, Savannah FFA  
Beth Bruckerhoff, Warrenton FFA  
Sadie Connolly, Columbia FFA  
Gene Corman, Willow Springs FFA  
Drew Cox, Princeton FFA  
Brad Deeken, Linn FFA  
Natoshia Diehl, Butler FFA  
Kelly Erdman, Santa Fe FFA  
Curtis Fischer, Van-Far FFA  
Blair Gann, Marshfield FFA  
Scott Gardner, Albany FFA  
Jenna Gerke, Pilot Grove FFA  
Jeremy Haley, Eldon FFA

Jessica Hamill, California FFA  
Jordan Harmon, Brunswick FFA  
Wyatt Hendricks, Miller FFA  
Jeff Houts, Rock Port FFA  
Rachel Hudson, Sweet Springs FFA  
Pam Jennings, Holden FFA  
Wendy Jensen, Higginsville FFA  
Emily Joesting, King City FFA  
Brian Johnson, Savannah FFA  
Glen Kirby, Trenton FFA  
Jill Kohut, Farmington FFA  
Kurt Korte, Bowling Green FFA  
Wyatt Long, Morrisville FFA  
Beth Luebbering, Thayer FFA  
Cameron Massman, Eugene FFA  
Liz Mauzey, Madison FFA  
Daisy McIntire, North Shelby FFA  
Adryane Meller, Nichols Career Center FFA  
Blayne Messner, Albany FFA  
Patrick Mistler, Belle FFA



### EDUCATION

Nearly **\$820,000** provided in college scholarships to support rural Missouri's youth seeking higher education.



### COMMUNITY BETTERMENT

More than **\$182,000** distributed since 2012 through Shaping Rural Missouri grants to 4-H and FFA for community betterment projects.



### LIFE SKILLS

Nearly **\$1.65 million** provided through the Ag Youth Program emphasizes the value of records, budgeting and obligations to repay.

DeEtta Murphy, Sweet Springs FFA  
Abby Oelrichs, Higginsville FFA  
Carrie Peiter, Palmyra FFA  
Debbie Ragsdale, Carthage FFA  
Jeff Rhode, Kirkland Hiawatha FFA  
Adlai Riekhof, Higginsville FFA  
Hailey Rook, Lamar FFA  
Nicole Sandner, New Franklin FFA  
Kyle Schieber, Jefferson FFA  
Mylie Schupback, Keytesville FFA  
Jay Sloniker, Nevada FFA  
Landon Snook, Exeter FFA  
Lauren Thompson, Pilot Grove FFA  
Stephanie Tyler, Odessa FFA  
Stacy Ward, Licking FFA  
Kathryn Whisenand, Macon FFA  
Wendy Whittlesey, East Newton FFA  
Kim Williams, Nevada FFA  
Brian Zimerschied, Sweet Springs FFA





# *Leading by Example. Every Day.*

**As the next generation of agriculturists,** we can't wait to see what you do. You show us every day that you are young leaders setting an example, serving communities and reaching goals. Let us help you on that journey to success. Give us a call or visit [myfcsfinancial.com](http://myfcsfinancial.com) to learn more about the opportunities available through our youth support programs.



**FCS FINANCIAL**

Growing Relationships. Creating Opportunities.™

A FARM CREDIT COOPERATIVE



Find an FCS Financial office near you:

**1.800.444.3276**

[WWW.MYFCSFINANCIAL.COM](http://WWW.MYFCSFINANCIAL.COM)

\*\*Scholarship applicants must meet all qualifications in application to be eligible \*\*Grant and Ag Youth Funding applicants must be a member of a 4-H club or FFA chapter located in one of the 102 Missouri counties served by FCS Financial. Growing Relationships. Creating Opportunities. is a trademark of FCS Financial, ACA.

